

L-19



**COMMENT CARD
PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY/U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION**

**PCWA AMERICAN RIVER PUMP STATION AND RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

NAME:	RICHARD WARDEN
ADDRESS:	2877 ALLEN DR
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	AUBURN, CA 95602
BUSINESS AND/OR HOME PHONE/FAX:	PH. 530 878 0738 / FAX 530 878 9395
ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE):	PROTECT AMERICAN RIVER CANYONS
COMMENTS:	
A	I support the draft EIS/EIR, but have a few concerns:
B	①. Concept pictures at the public hearing showed the restored canyon walls as smooth, but very similar to most landfills in appearance. Please provide a more natural variation of the terrain.
C	②. It was not clear if the PCWA pumping basin would go to the TOP of Tamaroo Rapid or the BOTTOM. I do NOT support flooding Tamaroo Rapid.
D	③. The parking provided seems adequate for the circumstances of this project. I suggest that a statement be made in your document suggesting a more global approach to this issue should further "improvements" be made due to the tunnel opening.
E	④. The issue of a bridge crossing should be addressed as part of this project due to the disruption of now-established recreational use of the trails between Cool and Auburn.

PLEASE USE THIS TO SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS ABOUT THE DRAFT EIS/EIR. YOU CAN SEND ADDITIONAL COMMENTS TO:
DRAFT EIS/EIR COMMENTS, SURFACE WATER RESOURCES, INC., 2031 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 110, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825
JUST FOLD THIS SELF-ADDRESSED SHEET INTO THIRDS, SEAL, STAMP, AND MAIL. THANK YOU.

☒ Please check here if you would like to be on the project mailing list.

- A. Project support noted.
- B. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.5, Project Area River Restoration.
- C. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.7, Tamaroo Bar.
- D. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.6, Public River Access Features.
- E. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-20

44 Walnut Tree Court
Colusa, California 95932
October 24, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIR/EIS Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Friends,

In this time of uncertain current events and increasingly troubling news on a daily basis, I submit to you the need for recreational areas for the public. Outdoor enthusiasts need a place of refuge where they can collect their thoughts, as well as become a part of the natural beauty of this great state of California.

A

Please add my name to the list of those encouraging you to build a bridge as part of the river restoration and pump project on the Coffey Dam site. I frequently use the Coffey Dam loop for both running training for me and for enjoyable hours of riding on my horse. The trails in the area are challenging and good for the soul. To lose them would be a loss, as well as cause problems of safety on other nearby trails that more and varied users would be forced to share. A bridge seems a small price to pay for the recreational opportunities that would be saved by doing so.

Thank you for your consideration. I believe that with careful planning and cooperation between trail users and government officials, this can be a win-win situation.

Sincerely,

Barbara White

Barbara White
530 458-2443
Captain, Dusty Corners Aid Station, Western States Trail Run
Buckle Winner, 25 times since 1968, Tevis Cup Ride

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

A.R. Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources
2031 Howe Avenue, Ste 110
Sacramento, CA 95825

October 24, 2001

Ladies and Gentlemen:

I wish to comment on two aspects of the American River Pump Station Project (ARPSP). First, the pump station should NOT be built; and secondly, the American River should be restored to its natural state with the tunnel permanently sealed.

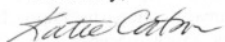
First, the pump station is the worst kind of growth inducing project in an area that is already having its rural, natural qualities destroyed. Building pump stations will provide the go-ahead for rampant development. As soon as the water capacities are maxed out, there will be pressure to build more and bigger pumps since the precedent has been set. More is never enough as far as development mentalities are concerned. No pump stations will make populations increases somewhat limited in this area which in turn will preserve Placer County's disappearing delightful rural qualities.

Secondly, the American River should be restored to its natural channel--not for the pumps, not for increased water supplies, not for recreational activities, or for any other artificial advantages. The American River is a vein through which nature flows. It never should have been altered in any way in the first place. It is our moral imperative to restore it for its own sake--as a vital part of our ecological heritage.

In addition, no bridge should be built (to keep the Auburn-Cool Trail open). That trail was never meant to be a commute route. There are other nearby crossings upstream that should suffice for recreational activities. The trail crossing did not exist before. Restoration of the American River should not include, nor be obligated to include, nor be an excuse to include a man-made object constructed for the convenience of a few. The costs and impacts of any type of crossing at this point border on obnoxious.

"Restoration" and/or "natural" mean just that. Give us back our river as it was--no bridge, no pumps, no tunnel. Thank you.

Cordially,



Katie Cather
P.O. Box 2052
Loomis, CA 95650

A. The Draft EIS/EIR acknowledges that rapid growth has occurred in Placer County since the mid-1980s, and that growth demands have pushed the limits of PCWA's existing water supply delivery means from both the Drum-Spaulding Project and the MFP seasonal pump station (page 1-6). Future growth and development have been approved through local planning processes (i.e., different City and County General Plans).

PCWA's need for a larger pump station and the added capacity associated with it does not increase the quantity of PCWA's existing water entitlement. The proposed larger pump station facility would only enable PCWA to withdraw the quantity of water to which it is rightly entitled under the law, in accordance with its FERC license and two Water Rights Permits granted by the State Water Resources Control Board.

It is the responsibility of planning agencies to foresee future needs and try to develop land use development alternatives that will meet impending demands while being environmentally sound and beneficial to the overall needs of the community. PCWA does not possess land use regulating authority; however, it is PCWA's mandate to meet water demand within its service area. Provisions in existing state and county planning efforts running through 2030 have anticipated what future water supply demands will be under mid-range growth and build-out projections, and have established alternative water supply sources within the Central Valley as well as other combinations of efforts including reduction over time in the amount of MFP water supplied to Sacramento Suburban Water District.

Response A continued on the following pages.

Response A (cont.)

PCWA's legal duties arise in part from the Placer County Water Agency Act, which is found in section 81-1, et seq., of the appendices to the California Water Code. Section 81-4 of that enabling legislation gives PCWA the power "to do **any and every lawful act** necessary in order that sufficient water may be available for any present or future beneficial use or uses of the lands or inhabitants within the agency, including, but not limited, to, irrigation, domestic, fire protection, municipal, commercial, industrial and all other beneficial uses and purposes." (Emphasis added.) Section 81-4.3 gives PCWA the authority to "appropriate and acquire water and...[to] utilize...water for any purpose useful to the agency." Section 81-6 gives PCWA the authority to cooperate and contract with Reclamation with respect to the "construction of works" for "water supply" and other purposes.

PCWA also is subject to the Urban Water Management Planning Act (Water Code, Section 10610 et seq.) as amended in 2001 in response to the Legislature's concern that California's water supply agencies might not be engaged in adequate long-term planning. That Act requires PCWA, as an "urban water supplier," to maintain an "urban water management plan" that must identify existing water supply and demand, and must identify any new water sources required to satisfy demand as projected at least 20 years into the future. The projected 20-year water supply must account for "average, single-dry, and multiple-dry water years."

In predicting 20-year water demands, PCWA, like other urban water agencies, must rely on "data from the state, regional, or local service agency population projections[.]" Thus, to the extent that Placer County and its incorporated cities (e.g., Roseville, Rocklin, Lincoln, Auburn, and Loomis) anticipate large population increases in their adopted general plans, PCWA is required to identify water sources necessary to serve such planned development, and is not in a position to refuse to comply with that legal obligation as a means of reducing the "growth-inducing" effects of obtaining new water supplies.

The Draft EIS/EIR provides a summary of PCWA's estimated future water supply needs (pages 1-5 to 1-7) as determined by the Placer County Water Agency Surface Water Supply Update for Western Placer County (PCWA 2001). The Surface Water Supply Update contains an evaluation of the build-out demands under the existing General Plans of the Cities and the County within its present service area, based on a mid-range estimate of probable growth rates (PCWA 2001). The existing General Plans permit development as indicated by the plans, without further evaluation. The Surface Water Supply Update indicates that the build-out demands that are documented in those plans extend to 2030 and require an additional 70,000 AF of water to be supplied by PCWA.

The water demand projections utilized in the Draft EIS/EIR have been prepared based upon data from several sources, including City and County General Plans, as described on pages 3-30 and 3-31. Table 3.4-2 in the Draft EIS/EIR shows incremental projected water demands up to the year 2020. The projections assume PCWA's continued implementation and support for water use efficiency measures, as stated on page 1-6 of the Draft EIS/EIR.

Surface water projections through 2030 indicate an increased water supply demand throughout the service area. This is consistent with PCWA's Surface Water Supply Update report, which shows PCWA's long-term need for the construction of new diversion, treatment, transmission and distribution infrastructure facilities, from both the American and Sacramento Rivers, of equal capacity to PCWA's existing water supply entitlements in order to meet the future demands of Placer County. Ultimately, the size of these facilities may be smaller in their final phases as PCWA moves forward with planned conservation and water use efficiency measures and others move forward with planned reclamation projects. However, nothing except a building moratorium in Placer County will allay the need to construct the American River Pump Station now.

It is unlikely that a precedent will be set allowing further construction of larger pump stations along the Middle Fork of the American River in the future, because this would require an increase in PCWA's overall water entitlements from a river whose water is already in high demand and highly regulated. Any future request for an increase in water rights allocations or alterations to annual use patterns from existing sources would require extensive and long-term adjudication affecting a multitude of numerous

planning policies and regulatory actions. This would include new water rights permits, which would be opposed by downstream users, Reclamation, the Water Forum and other environmental groups.

Response B

Please refer to Master Response 3.1.5, Project Area River Restoration.

Response C

Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

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COMMENT CARD

PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY/U.S. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

**PCWA AMERICAN RIVER PUMP STATION AND RIVER RESTORATION PROJECT
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT/ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT**

NAME:	JAMES KELLER
ADDRESS:	4646 BURT LANE
CITY/STATE/ZIP:	AUBURN CA 95602
BUSINESS AND/OR HOME PHONE/FAX:	530 886 8577
ORGANIZATION (IF APPLICABLE):	
COMMENTS:	
A	The plan for the pump station and re-watering of the river is great, however I feel the loss of the Auburn to Cool trail is a major flaw in the over all plan.
	As you saw from the turnout at the meeting, this trail is very important to the hundreds of hikers, biker, and horse back riders who use it. The closure will have an impact on the other trails in the canyon, and it will have a financial impact on the Main Street Grill in Cool, who caters to all the people who are hungry and thirsty after riding that great trail.
	Please consider a crossing so we can continue to enjoy this trail.

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DRAFT EIS/EIR COMMENTS, SURFACE WATER RESOURCES, INC., 2031 HOWE AVENUE, SUITE 110, SACRAMENTO, CA 95825
JUST FOLD THIS SELF-ADDRESSED SHEET INTO THIRDS, SEAL, STAMP, AND MAIL. THANK YOU.

☐ Please check here if you would like to be on the project mailing list.

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-23

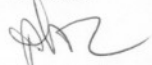
American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources Inc.
2031 Howe Ave
Sacramento, CA 95825

To Whom It May Concern:

A

PLEASE reconsider the decision to eliminate precious trail resources in the Coffey Dam area. Recreational use of this area would be irreparably damaged by the proposed plan. As you have no doubt been advised, there is heavy use of this section of trail by hikers, bicyclists, and equestrians. Please include a plan and resources for creation of a bridge to circumvent the area of closure.

Sincerely,



Pat Farmer
1300 E. Barcus Way
Fortuna, CA 95540

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-24

Kenneth Prager
6107 Teague Lane
Granite Bay, CA 95746
916-791-8525

October 24, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Ave, Suite 110
Sacramento, CA 95825

Dear Sirs:

I am elated about the closing of the tunnel at the Auburn dam construction site and the eventual return of this area to its original state. However, I am concerned about the loss of the Auburn to Cool trail as a result of this closing.

The Auburn to Cool trail provides the only safe route for mountain bicyclists to travel between the 2 towns. The only other route requires riding on Highway 49—a route that has no shoulders and high traffic speeds.

I realize that the cost of a bridge would be large but believe that a better lower cost alternative exists. The better alternative would be a new trail that goes from the dam overlook to either Highway 49 at the river or Mt. Quarries bridge and then up to Cool.

I hope that mitigation for closing the existing trail would include all or partial funding for such a trail.

Sincerely,


Kenneth Prager

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.



bobbi richine's Rocky Mountain Training Center

6203 Valley High Road ■ Larkspur, CO 80118 ■ 303 681-3237 Voice ■ 303 681-3238 Fax ■ bobbi@rmtc.net

October 24, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

Gentlemen/Madams:

As a former resident of California and frequent visitor to the Auburn/Cool areas of your state, I would like to register my two cents worth:

The PCWA claims made at the public hearing last week, that the Auburn-to-Cool trail loss is an "unavoidable" impact of the river restoration and pump station project, is an insensitive and inaccurate response to the problem.

The trails that merge at the Coffey Dam site provide access to several other trails (Maidu, Western States Trail in Auburn, and the Olmstead Trail in Cool) which are widely used by my fellow equestrians, mountain bike riders, hikers, and distance runners. Loss of this trail network to the thousands of us who use them today and have used them for decades would be a tragic and unnecessary loss.

Fellow riders, hikers, and runners I have spoken with agree that the PCWA river project needs to include a bridge in their plan . . . a small addition to such a large project.

If the opinion of a transplanted Californian and frequent visitor to your area means anything, please do everything possible to assure these trails are not lost to the public. Your wise stewardship will be greatly appreciated.

Respectfully yours,

ROCKY MOUNTAIN TRAINING CENTER

Bobbi Richine
Bobbi Richine

COLORADO'S PREMIER ARABIAN HORSE RANCH

endurance training ■ boarding ■ riding vacations ■ bed & breakfast ■ endurance sale horses
■ Arabian horses ■ certified horse appraisals ■ horse consignments ■ riding instruction

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.

L-26

RECEIVED OCT 29 2001

Leonard and Heather Davis
2365 Shirland Park Place
Auburn, CA 95603
(530) 889-8808

October 25, 2001

Placer County Water Agency
P. O. Box 6570
Auburn, CA 95604

Dear Gentilepersons:

RE: American River Pumping Station Closure

My husband and I oppose the American River Pumping Station Closure project as it now stands.

We have no objection to the installation of a permanent pumping station in the canyon. We do however most strenuously loss of the trail to Cool that would occur if the diversion tunnel were closed.

A

Closure of the tunnel would benefit one group only – the river rafters. Hikers, bikers and equestrians would lose a most valuable trail. The trail as it now exists is especially valuable because it provides a connection to a series of loops on the Cool side of the canyon.

There surely is a way that we can all use and share the canyon and the trail system that exists.

A bridge is a possibility; perhaps a graded bar could be put in and repaired on a yearly basis. And perhaps the tunnel could stay as it is. What about portaging around the tunnel? It's not very far. Who has the money to close the tunnel? Is this good use of our money?

Once again, whatever happens in the river canyon, we must find a way to provide access to the Cool side of the canyon.

Yours sincerely,

Leonard + Heather Davis

Leonard and Heather Davis

TO	DATE	INFO	ACTION
CHL. MGR			
DIRECTORS			
ATTORNEY			
BRO. CLERK			
PLANNING ADM			
DEPT. HEADS			
MGT. TEAM			
CUST. SERV. DIR			
FIELD SERV. DIR			
FINANCE DIR			
H.R. DIR			
PWR. SYS. MGR			
STG. AFF. DIR			
TECH. SERV. DIR			
Robert Smith	10/30		

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail and Master Response 3.1.4, Auburn Dam Construction Bypass Tunnel.

L-27

Rancho Milagro
Paso Fino Horses

P.O. Box 1803 Shingle Springs, CA 95682
(530) 676-1245

October 25, 2001

American River Pump Station Project
Draft EIS/EIR Comments
Surface Water Resources, Inc.
2031 Howe Avenue
Sacramento, CA 95825

To Whom It May Concern:

It has come to our attention that the PCWA plan for the American River Pump Station Project as currently outlined results in the loss of the Auburn-to-Cool trail. This is of great concern to us.


This trail is used by thousands of outdoor enthusiasts. The Coffey Dam site is one of the few places where several trails merge and provide access to other trail systems. Loss of this trail would negatively impact cyclists, hikers, joggers and equestrians. These trail users would then be forced to use other seriously dangerous alternatives.

It is our belief that loss of this trail is significant and avoidable. Construction of a bridge to allow continued access to these trails, as well as dirt trails along paved roads would result in the successful completion of the project as well as continued availability to trail users.

We are asking PCWA to support the community and not take away the use of these precious and beautiful canyon trails. They are literally used by people from around the world as they train for several world class local events, and would be a huge loss to the community.

Thank you for your respectful consideration.

Sincerely,


Bruce and Dana Baldwin

A. Please refer to Master Response 3.1.1, Auburn-to-Cool Trail.